

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
EB-08 /094 W

-----091204 021849Z /41

O R 021802Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 986
INFO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMEMBASSY BONN
DIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL TRIESTE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH
USMISSION USNATO

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USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

SHAPEUSNMR FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IT, PINT
SUBJ: DC POSITION ON GOVERNMENT CRISIS
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1. SUMMARY: AFTER THREE DAYS OF DEBATE BY THE DC
PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS, THE DC CIRECTORATE ON THE
NIGHT OF MARCH 1 RENEWED ANDREOTTI'S MANDATE TO
ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT AMONG THE OTHER
PARTIES ON A PROGRAM THAT WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY
A LARGE "PROGRAMMATIC-PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY."

ANDREOTTI'S EFFORTS ARE TO BE BASED UPON THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE DEBATE BY THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS, WHICH TAKE A TOUGHER AND MORE SPECIFIC LINE ON A NUMBER OF THE PROGRAM ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. THE DC PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS MET FOR THREE DAYS (FEBRUARY 27-MARCH1) TO DEBATE THE ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO THE DC FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS WHICH BEGAN ON JANUARY 16. THE DEBATE WITHIN THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS WAS INTENSE. THE BASIC DIS-AGREEMENT THAT SURFACED APPEARED AT TIMES TO THREATEN A SPLIT IN THE CRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. ANDREOTTI AND HIS EFFORTS TO PUT TOGETHER A NEW GOVERNMENT WERE SERIOUSLY CRITICIZED IN BOTH POLITICAL AND PROGRAM TERMS. POLITICALLY HE WAS CRITICIZED FOR HAVING MADE TOO MANY CONCESSIONS TO THE COMMUNISTS AND FOR HAVING MOVED TOO FAR, TOO FAST TOWARD THE PCI WITH THE RESULT THERE WAS LITTLE ROOM FOR MANUEVER LEFT TO THE DC. THE ANDREOTTI PROGRAM WAS CRITICIZED AS BEING TOO VAGUE AND GENERAL AND NOT REFLECTING THE EMERGENCY THAT CLEARLY EXISTS PARTICULARLY IN THE ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC ORDER AREAS. UNITY WAS FINALLY ACHIEVED LATE ON MARCH 1 IN THE FORM OF A DOCUMENT WHICH WAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE DEPUTY (COSTAMAGNA).

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3. THE DOCUMENT AGREED UPON BY THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS WAS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THE DECISION OF THE DC DIRECTORATE LATER THAT SAME EVENING. THE DIRECTORATE TOOK NOTE OF THE DOCUMENT, REAFFIRMED THE DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTORATE IN ITS FEBRUARY 3 MEETING, AND GAVE ANDREOTTI A MANDATE TO PURSUE HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OTHER PARTIES IN AN EFFORT TO DEFINE A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM CAPABLE OF COPING WITH THE EMERGENCY SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY. SPEAKING OF THE PROGRAM, THE DIRECTORATE STATED THAT IT SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PROPOSALS WHICH EMERGED IN THE DEBATE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS AND BE SUPPORTED BY "A LARGE PROGRAMMATIC-PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY." THE DEBATE IN THE DIRECTORATE MADE CLEAR THAT THE DC DOES NOT INTEND TO PROPOSE ANYONE ELSE AS AN ALTERNATE TO ANDREOTTI AS PREMIER-DESIGNATE. IT WAS ALSO CLEARLY STATED THAT THE DC EXPECTS THE GOVERNMENT TO LAST ONLY THROUGH THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTONS IN DECEMBER 1978.

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ACTION EUR-12

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TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13
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-----091524 021929Z /41

O R 021802Z MAR 78
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4. THE DOCUMENT PRODUCED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS
IN ITS PREAMBLE "REAFFIRMS THE FIRM DESIRE TO
REMAIN...IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND EUROPE."
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THE DOCUMENT ALSO "UNDERLINED THE NEED FOR
THE DEFINITION OF A SEVERE AND RIGOROUS PROGRAM FOR THE

EMERGENCY THAT EXISTS IN THE COUNTRY ON WHICH (THE PARTY CAN) ASK FOR THE LARGEST POSSIBLE PARLIAMENTARY AGREEMENT." ELEMENTS OF THAT PROGRAM WERE DEFINED IN THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) MAINTAIN A MARKET ECONOMY TIED TO THE WEST AND FACILITATED BY A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM THAT WILL RE-ESTABLISH CONFIDENCE FOR ITALIAN AND FOREIGN INVESTORS.

B) IMPLEMENT AN IMMEDIATE AND EXTRAORDINARY PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF THE YOUNG, PARTICULARLY IN THE SOUTH.

C) IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISES WITHOUT PERMITTING, IN ANY WAY, AN EXPANSION OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR, PARTICULARLY THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, AND ENCOURAGE COMPANY INVESTMENT INITIATIVES. (THE MENTION OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY REFERS TO CURRENT PROPOSALS THAT PUBLICLY OWNED/CONTROLLED ENTERPRISES TAKE OVER MONTEDISON AND PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.)

D) ADOPT SPECIFIC AND IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC SPENDING DEFICIT AND THEREBY GUARANTEE THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTH AND IN AGRICULTURE.

E) URGE, THROUGH COMMON ACTION OF ALL PARTIES, THE ADOPTION OF A WAGE POLICY THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE REDUCTION OF THE COST OF LABOR, AN INCREASE IN THE MOBILITY OF LABOR, AND (UNSPECIFIED) CHANGES IN THE LABOR LAWS, WHICH WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE GREATER EMPLOYMENT OF THE YOUNG AND OF WOMEN.

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F) THE EMERGENCY IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC ORDER SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY REINFORCING AND REFORMING THE POLICE WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ACHIEVING GREATER EFFICIENCY, BUT EXCLUDING ABSOLUTELY THE CREATION OR THE AFFILIATION OF A POLICE UNION BY OR WITH THE THREE LARGE LABOR CONFEDERATION. (THIS WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN UNAFFILIATED "HOUSE" UNION.)

G) THE DOCUMENT CONCLUDES WITH AN APPEAL FOR A MOBILIZATION OF THE PARTY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO OVERCOME THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CRISIS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CLEARLY DEMONSTRATING THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE DC AND THE ALTERNATIVE THAT IT REPRESENTS TO PROJECTS AND SOLUTIONS OF CLEAR MARXIST INSPIRATION.

5. THE DC DIRECTORATE CONCLUDED TOO LATE FOR OTHER PARTIES TO HAVE A CONSIDERED REACTION TO THE NEW DC POSITIONS. THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS HAVING A DIRECTORATE, ON MARCH 2. ANDREOTTI HAS ALSO CALLED FOR A COLLEGIAL MEETING WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SIX PARTIES ON MARCH 4 TO REVIEW THE SITUATION. THE RESULTS OF THAT MEETING MAY TELL US WHETHER THE NEW DC FORMULA IS NEGOTIABLE.

6. COMMENT: THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED INTERNAL DC DEBATE RESULTED IN A TOUGHER DC POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE OTHER PARTIES. THE DEBATE FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON THE TACTICAL PROBLEM OF WHAT TO DO, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS AND, IN PARTICULAR, RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE PCI. ON THESE QUESTIONS THERE WERE SHARP DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. THREE FACTORS CONTRIBUTED IMPORTANTLY TO THE "UNANIMOUS" AGREEMENT THAT WAS FINALLY REACHED: MORO'S LEADERSHIP, THE DESIRE TO AVOID ELECTIONS THIS YEAR, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAINTAINING PARTY UNITY.HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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